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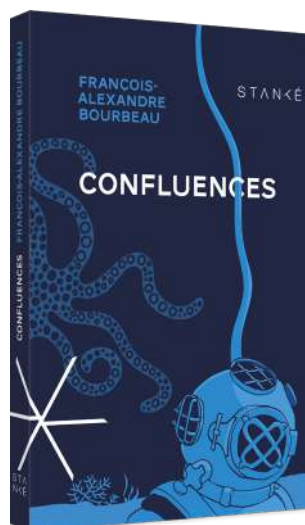
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New Releases

STANKÉ

LITERARY FICTION / NOVEL



Confluences

/ Confluences

François-Alexandre Bourbeau

STANKÉ

AUGUST 2023

12.7 CM × 20.3 CM ■ 200 P. ■ \$27.95



AUTHOR

François-Alexandre Bourbeau is a bookseller in Quebec's Gaspésie region. He is also a translator. *Confluences* is his first novel.

A debut novel imbued with poetry and touches of magic realism

DESCRIPTION

Confluences is a mix of stories interconnected by a string of characters glimpsed and objects sighted. Little by little, the author paints pictures in which everything comes together in a microcosm. This is a cabinet of curiosities, a map of the world crisscrossed by side roads that in the end meet up. In it are found lovers, a diving suit, an inventor, some clocks, a woman who is a voracious reader of rare books, an octopus, some damn good mugs of beer, the smell of the waves, a timeless spy, an eccentric collector, a few booksellers, a providential data leak, many fish, and equally as many books.

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SALES POINTS

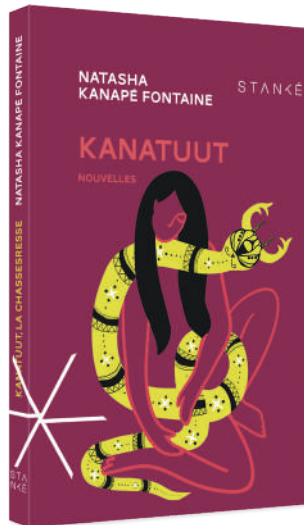
- Vibrant and evocative writing.
- A novel that takes us to different places and times.

PRAISE

"Bourbeau's story is both complex and detailed, sometimes convoluted, more often poetic, and the result is a meticulously written and brilliantly constructed first novel."
Le Devoir

New Releases

LITERARY FICTION / NOVEL



Kanatuut – La chasseresse / Kanatuut: The Huntress Natasha Kanapé Fontaine

STANKÉ
NOVEMBER 2023
12.7 CM × 20.3 CM ■ 120 P. ■ \$24.95
[All rights available](#)

A surrealist short story collection centred on First Nations land

DESCRIPTION

This short story collection contains surrealism, magic realism, fantasy, imaginary or real-life creatures rooted in oral tradition, and spirits of ancestral animism that inhabit the characters' contemporary world. It also explores the relationship with an unforgiving territory that nonetheless gives the protagonists the necessary strength to survive in a world running counter to their values.

SALES POINTS

- Natasha Kanapé Fontaine is very well known in literary circles, but she is also known to the general public.
- In 2021, she was promoted to the rank of Chevalière de l'ordre des Arts et des Lettres of the French Republic.
- The collection is in step with the Indigenous literature movement, which is naturally becoming an integral part of our fiction's DNA.

STANKÉ



AUTHOR

Natasha Kanapé Fontaine is a poet, author, actor, interdisciplinary artist, and militant for Indigenous and environmental rights, originally from the Pessamit Innu community in Quebec's North Shore region. She has published three poetry collections and a debut novel. She has participated in several collectives, including *Amun* and *Wapke*, published by Stanké. She has won numerous awards and distinctions including the Prix Droits et Libertés for her poetry and her involvement in bringing peoples together through art, writing, and performance.

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New Releases

STANKÉ

LITERARY FICTION / NOVEL



Ma langue étrangère / My Foreign Tongue Martin Talbot

STANKÉ
APRIL 2023
12.7 CM × 20.3 CM ■ 168 P. ■ \$24.95



AUTHOR

The author, director, and screenwriter for TV and cinema **Martin Talbot** has always been fascinated by storytelling techniques and the imaginary world of children. Writer and producer of the acclaimed film *Henri Henri* (2014), he directed *Les Parent*, a popular series broadcast on Radio-Canada and produced the *File d'attente* series for Unis TV in 2018. *My Foreign Tongue* is his third book published by Stanké.

A humorous and poignant novel with satirical accents that becomes a meditation on speech, voice and language

DESCRIPTION

A man posts an old-school ad in the newspaper. He will soon be in need of a spokes-person because he's literally losing his tongue, which has become cancerous and must be amputated. Can the woman who answers his ad become his new voice and his ideal advocate? She thinks so, at least at first. What happens when you lose your tongue? How do you compensate for such a loss? How do you express yourself, exercise free speech? Will your mother tongue morph into a foreign language? In equal parts dark, linguistically playful and poignant, this novel uses parable and allegory to explore common myths about language and belonging.

SALES POINTS

- A novel reminiscent of the theatre of Eugène Ionesco and the short stories of Jacques Ferron, with a hint of George Orwell's *Animal Farm*.
- Filmmaker, screenwriter and author Martin Talbot crafts an emotionally compelling fictional world with a visual, elliptical and ironic style all his own.

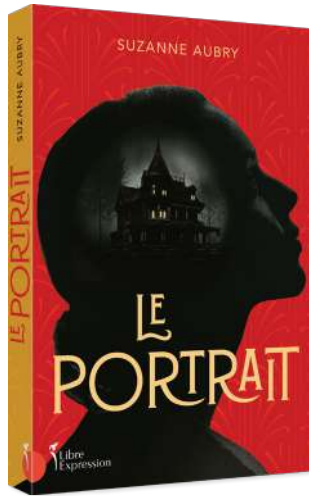
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PRAISE

"Navigating between laughter and emotion, stuffed full of delicious wordplay, this novel uses allegory to address current issues." *Clin d'œil magazine*

"With humour and wit, the producer of *Henri Henri* reflects on the meaning and weight of words, on attachment to our native language, and on the value of words as a whole." *Le Devoir*

New Releases



Le Portrait / The Portrait Suzanne Aubry

LIBRE EXPRESSION
AUGUST 2023
15.3 CM × 22.9 CM ■ 288 P. ■ \$32.95



AUTHOR

Suzanne Aubry holds a diploma in playwriting from Canada's National Theatre School. Her *Fanette* series has won the hearts of readers with over 100,000 copies sold. She is also the author of a number of plays, a short story collection, a children's book, and five other novels, including *Ma vie est entre tes mains*, a finalist for the Prix des cinq continents de la Francophonie in 2016. She received the Order of Canada in 2022.

An imaginative novel with a gothic flavour

DESCRIPTION

1932. Clémence Deschamps, a young teacher in a one-room schoolhouse, dreams of escaping from her monotonous existence. She answers a classified ad and becomes governess to the son of a Dr. Levasseur, in Montreal. But strange things happen in this mansion; at night, Clémence glimpses a black-clad silhouette in the garden. Very soon, she gets the feeling there is a mystery surrounding the death of Jeanne Levasseur, the doctor's late wife. Her investigation will lead her to disturbing discoveries.

SALES POINTS

- A noir novel reminiscent of *The Turn of the Screw* by Henry James or *Jane Eyre* by Charlotte Brontë.
- Fluid and evocative writing, a well-paced tale with more than its share of mysteries.

PRAISE

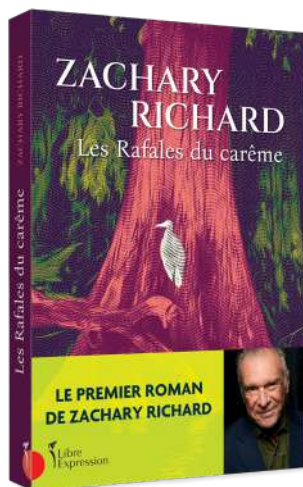
"Admired for her historical fiction, the author succeeds brilliantly in this foray into the gothic novel: a gloomy universe, shady characters, and just the right dose of suspense, thanks to devilishly effective writing – this is a book to be read in one sitting."
L'Actualité

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New Releases



LITERARY FICTION / NOVEL

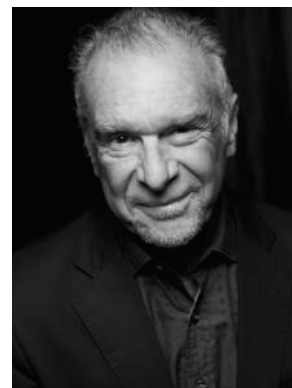


Les Rafales du carême
/ *The Gusting Winds of Lent*

Zachary Richard

LIBRE EXPRESSION
OCTOBER 2023
15.3 CM × 22.9 CM ■ 392 P. ■ \$32.95

All rights available



AUTHOR

A songwriter and poet, militant Francophone, and committed environmentalist, **Zachary Richard** is especially renowned as a singer. With 21 albums to his credit, including several gold and platinum records, he has had an international musical career. He has received many distinctions, including four honorary doctorates, and became Chevalier de l'Ordre de la Pléiade in 2000. He is also the producer, composer, and narrator of a number of televised documentaries, and in 2019 published a collection of poetry, *Zuma 9*.

A debut coming-of-age novel with a thriller side

DESCRIPTION

In the chaos that descends on southern Louisiana following the Civil War, the shopkeeper in a small village is robbed and murdered. The story is told by a young man of 17, who's learning about life from his grandfather, Drozin. The southern veteran, now a rich man thanks to the arrival of the railway, is attempting to regain his prestige and political power. A number of historical figures, such as Sarah Bernhardt, Buffalo Bill Cody, Gabriel Dumont, and the southern general Pierre Gustave Toutant Beauregard, add depth to the plot.

SALES POINTS

- The first French-language novel published by a Louisiana author since 1894.
- Beautiful poetic writing, imbued with the musical quality of the author's Louisiana speech.
- Magnificent descriptions of Louisiana, its heat, bayous, and fields.

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New Releases



Points de fuite, tome 1
/ *Vanishing Points, Volume 1*
Martin Michaud

LIBRE EXPRESSION
NOVEMBER 2023
15,2 CM × 23 CM ■ 400 P. ■ \$32.95

All rights available

This thriller takes place in the universe of forgers and the counterfeiting of artworks

DESCRIPTION

A conflict between two families, the Lavoies and the Lazarres, is at the root of this story situated in the art world. Using the trade in paintings as a cover, Lazarre is also a smuggler and forger, and Lavoie is compelled to carry out his orders to erase a longstanding debt. As the story begins, little Rosalie is kidnapped in her sleep during a family dinner at the Lavoies. Without thinking, the protagonist, Alice Lavoie, jumps into her patrol car and rushes to demand an explanation from the Lazarre clan. Her intervention will have disastrous consequences.

SALES POINTS

- This is the first volume of a new trilogy.
- Martin Michaud's previous book, *Jusqu'au dernier cri*, has sold **17,200 copies**, and *Ghetto X*, published in 2019, has sold **22,400 copies**.



AUTHOR

Recognized by critics as the master of the Quebec thriller, **Martin Michaud** practiced as a business lawyer for twenty years before devoting himself fully to writing. His novels have earned him a wide readership in Quebec, English Canada, the United States, Germany, and French-speaking Europe, as well as many literary prizes. He wrote the script for the TV series *Victor Lessard*, which won first prize at the Banff World Media Festival and has had more than 6 million viewings on Club Illico.

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New Releases



LITERARY FICTION / NOVEL



Ru – Édition tie-in annotée et augmentée / Ru: Annotated and Expanded Tie-in Edition Kim Thúy

LIBRE EXPRESSION
NOVEMBER 2023
13.4 CM × 22.9 CM ■ 176 P. ■ \$29.95

All rights available



AUTHOR

Born in Saigon in 1968, ten-year-old **Kim Thúy** fled Vietnam with the boat people and settled in Quebec with her family. In addition to becoming a writer, she has earned degrees in translation and law and has worked as a seamstress, interpreter, lawyer, and restaurant owner. The author has received many awards, including the Governor General's Literary Award in 2010, and was one of the top four finalists of the Alternative Nobel Prize in 2018. In 2023, she was awarded the title of Chevalière de l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres of France. Her books have sold more than 850,000 copies around the world, have been translated into 31 languages and distributed across 43 countries and territories. Kim Thúy lives in the greater Montreal area and devotes herself to writing.

A deluxe and expanded edition of the best-seller by Kim Thúy, the world-renowned author of *Ru*

DESCRIPTION

This special edition of *Ru*, Kim Thúy's celebrated first novel, accompanies the theatrical release of the film of the same name by Charles-Oliver Michaud. An edition designed by the author to please both her readers and herself: the book contains photos from the film with her comments, handwritten observations through which the author conveys a new understanding of the events described from the perspective she now has about her own writing, and also anecdotes about the book's journey since it appeared in 2009.

SALES POINTS

- *Ru* has sold more than **540,000 copies** worldwide, and more than **215,000** in Quebec.
- The story has won numerous literary awards, including the Governor General's Award in 2010, and has been translated into 30 languages.

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New Releases



Qimmik
/ Qimmik
Michel Jean

LIBRE EXPRESSION
OCTOBER 2023
14 CM × 21.6 CM ■ 240 P. ■ \$27.95

All rights available

A novel that revolves around a tragic event in Quebec's history: the massacre of 20,000 sled dogs in the Inuit villages of the Far North

DESCRIPTION

Nunavik. A treeless land. On this hostile landscape humans and dogs lived together, until the governments of Quebec and Canada decided to settle them by force. Through the daily life of a young couple, the story tells about life before the massacre. We follow Saullu and Ulaajuk through the 1960s and 1970s, right up until the tragic event that will destroy their lives. At the same time, the investigation of lawyer Ève Beaulieu, called on to defend a serial killer, unfolds. The killer is Inuk, the victims, former Quebec provincial police officers. A novel about attachment to the land, about friendship among human beings that sometimes binds them to dogs, and about what survives within us when everything seems to be lost.

SALES POINTS

- The massacre of 20,000 dogs—"qimmik" in Inuktitut—that occurred in the 1960s is a tragic event that remains unknown to the general public.
- Michel Jean's books have sold **360,000 copies** in Quebec.
- In his many books, the author has created a tremendous body of historical work, using fiction to help his readers experience the land, the cultural richness, and the suffering of indigenous peoples by linking them to authentic and moving characters.



AUTHOR

Michel Jean is Innu from Mashteuiatsh. He is a writer, TV news anchor and investigative journalist revered and appreciated by audiences across Quebec. The author of 12 books also writes short stories and has contributed to several collections, as well as curating two volumes bringing Indigenous voices to the fore: *Amun*, in 2016 and *Wapke*, in 2021. His novel, *Kukum*, a tribute to his great-grand mother published in Quebec in 2019, won the France-Quebec Literary Prize in 2020 and was the first best-selling novel in Quebec in 2021, with total sales exceeding 190,000 copies. In 2022, Michel Jean was awarded the title of Compagnon de l'Ordre des arts et des lettres du Québec.

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New Releases



UPMARKET FICTION / NOVEL



Doux bordel

/ Hot Mess

Andrée-Anne Brunet

LIBRE EXPRESSION

MARCH 2023

14 CM × 21.6 CM ■ 240 P. ■ \$29.95

All rights available



AUTHOR

Andrée-Anne Brunet has hosted a commercial radio show since 2012 and created her own Web series of interviews with Quebec artists, Meetings with AA (meetingsavecaa.com). She has written for various blogs and shared her passion for travel with La Presse newspaper readers. *Hot Mess* is her third novel.

This moving, playful novel paints a candid picture of new motherhood during a pandemic

DESCRIPTION

The story of a new mother grappling with the first year of life with her baby while the world around them explodes. Through a series of snippets that speak directly to the reader, this novel shines a light on the ups and downs of early motherhood, highlighting the beauty without embellishing or exaggerating the ugliness.

SALES POINTS

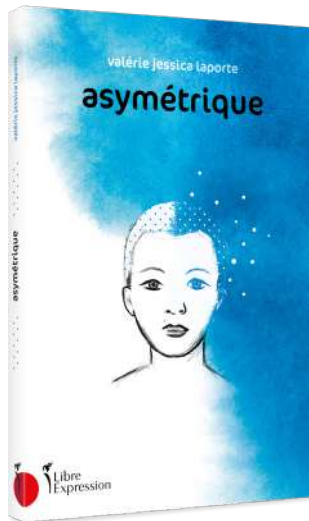
- A novel that's sure to strike a chord with women who've had a baby in the last two years.
- The author takes the rough with the smooth and has a wicked sense of humor.

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PRAISE

"A touching, funny novel, as reassuring as a hand on your shoulder during long sleepless nights." *Salut bonjour*, TVA

New Releases



Asymétrique
/ Lopsided
Valérie Jessica Laporte

LIBRE EXPRESSION
MARCH 2023
12.7 CM × 21.6 CM ■ 216 P. ■ \$24.95

All rights available

A coming-of-age novel about an autistic preteen girl trying to make sense of the world around her

DESCRIPTION

After running away at the end of *Unrecognizable*, Valérie Jessica Laporte's previous novel, the unnamed narrator is brought back to live with her biological father. She now calls him "Dad-Key" because she sees him as the key to figuring out how to connect with people who are not neurodivergent. Unstable and painful, but also filled with joy, her learning process is aided by a sensitive teacher and new classmates. As she tries to get her mind and body in sync, she realizes she has more abilities than she ever suspected, skills that will be tested when a friend finds himself in danger.

SALES POINTS

- Valérie Jessica Laporte's public Facebook page, *Bleuet atypique*, has 26,000 followers and her TikTok posts are widely viewed and shared.
- Valérie Jessica Laporte is the spokesperson for the Quebec Autism Federation (FQA).

PRAISE

"We salute the richness of the characters who are so much more than their handicap and to whom the author has given multilayered personalities. Autistic herself, Valérie Jessica Laporte opens a window onto the inner workings of an atypical brain, and it's fascinating. This book is not here just to entertain us, it also fulfils an important function." *Coup de pouce* magazine



AUTHOR

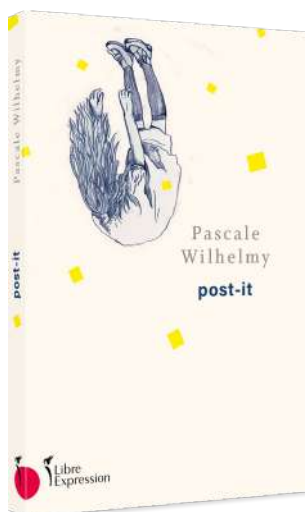
Valérie Jessica Laporte is an autistic 44-year-old mother of three. Through her work as a photographer, graphic designer and content creator, she explores her fascination for everyday objects and her relationship to them as a neurodivergent person. Her first novel, *Unrecognizable*, won the 2020 Prix Découverte award at the Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean book fair, as well as the debut novel award at the Rendez-vous du premier roman de Chambéry festival in 2021.

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New Releases

Libre
Expression

UPMARKET FICTION / NOVEL



Post-it / Post-it Pascale Wilhelmy

LIBRE EXPRESSION
MAY 2023
14 CM × 21.6 CM ■ 200 P. ■ \$24.95

All rights available

4,000
COPIES SOLD
IN QUEBEC



AUTHOR

Pascale Wilhelmy is an author, journalist and columnist. Over the years, she has written for all the major dailies in Quebec as well as for a number of magazines. Pascale Wilhelmy has published five novels with Libre Expression. In October 2016, she created the blog *Le beau, le bon, le bien*, which she updates regularly with the things she finds and thinks.

When a teenage girl is the only one who can look after her family, it's a lot of weight for her to carry on her shoulders. A very moving novel

DESCRIPTION

Brush your teeth. That note is a pink one on the bathroom mirror. Be sure to lock the door. This one's bright green, on the bedside table. Pay the rent. This time the note is blue, and it's stuck on the fridge. She's got Post-it notes of every colour. To make sure she doesn't forget anything. To carry on "as if." As if she wasn't 15 years old and all alone to take care of her little brother, and get homework done, and run the household. As if their mum wasn't in hospital. As if she was going to come back home. Loosely inspired by a true story, *Post-it* is a slice of life for a teenager doing her best to keep a promise she made to her mother: to take care of everything until she comes home. As if everything was all right.

SALES POINTS

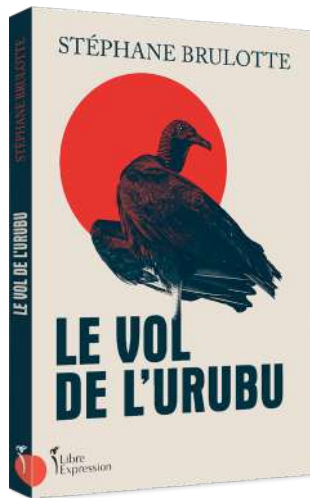
- The author's debut novel, *Where Do Wasps Go When It Gets Cold?*, has sold more than **13,000 copies**.
- A deftly crafted novel with wide public appeal.

PRAISE

"A story of two children's resilience, *Post-it* sinks its roots into a humanity that is sometimes raw and difficult, but no less luminous." *La Tribune*

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New Releases



Le vol de l'urubu
/ *As the Vulture Flies*
Stéphane Brulotte

LIBRE EXPRESSION
APRIL 2023
15.2 CM × 23 CM ■ 272 P. ■ \$29.95

All rights available



AUTHOR

Stéphane Brulotte trained at the National Theatre School in Montreal and has been treading the boards there for 28 years. He has participated in more than 40 stage productions including many premieres, the most recent of which was play wright Sébastien Harrisson's critically acclaimed *Becoming Chelsea*. He has also starred in various roles on television, notably in sitcoms. Since 2008, he has written, directed and produced several plays of his own.

An unsettling novel that pulls readers into a terrifying spiral of male aggression

DESCRIPTION

Battered, bleeding and confused, suburban husband Richard staggers home from his morning run. Changing out of his torn clothes, he notices a huge bite mark on his arm. Richard remembers nothing, other than a vague recollection of getting into a fight and throwing a punch with all his strength. A face takes shape in his mind. Did he really just kill someone? Benoît, 72, is walking his dog, thinking about the advanced melanoma his doctor has diagnosed and the kind of death he would have preferred: sudden and violent. Something more in keeping with his past. The drugs, the biker gangs, his time behind bars... before he discovered painting and redeemed himself. His work is all he can leave to the daughter he found out about late in life. Benoît muses that he might like to go in peace after all, unfortunately, he won't.

SALES POINTS

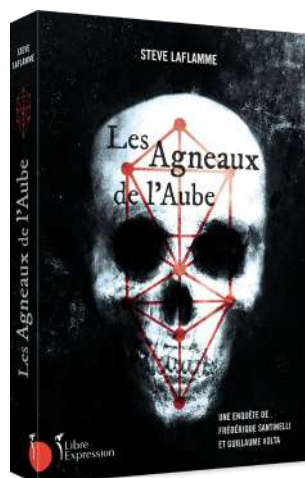
- A psychological thriller that explores the violence contained in two very different men and how it links them.
- *As the Vulture Flies* is actor and director Stéphane Brulotte's debut novel.

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New Releases



LITERARY FICTION / CRIME SERIES



Les Agneaux de l'Aube -Une enquête de
Frédérique Santinelli et Guillaume Volta, tome 1

/ *The Lambs of Dawn: A Frédérique Santinelli
and Guillaume Volta Investigation, Volume 1*

Steve Laflamme

LIBRE EXPRESSION
FEBRUARY 2023
15.2 CM × 23 CM ■ 414 P. ■ \$32.95

All rights available

A novel full of twists and turns with a breakneck pace and deftly woven intrigue

DESCRIPTION

When the violent deaths start racking up in Quebec City and the outlying Charlevoix region, Detective Lieutenant Guillaume Volta turns to literature professor Frédérique Santinelli for assistance. Can she help him decode a letter left by one of the victims of what the police are calling the "Murders of the Dawn"? Each killing appears to be inspired by the work of an author who was a member of the Hermetic Order of the Golden Dawn. Meanwhile, Frédérique Santinelli has her own demons to grapple with. She's a survivor of childhood trauma who agreed in her youth to an experimental treatment that wiped out her memories of life before the age of eighteen. The more she's drawn into the investigation, the more curious she is about what's lurking in the shadows of her past...

SALES POINTS

- A contemporary crime novel with a timely spin on the importance of knowledge, truth and learning in today's society—as opposed to opinion-driven false facts and beliefs.
- Steve Laflamme is an accomplished crime writer whose first trilogy was a big hit with thriller fans.
- *The Lambs of Dawn* is the first book in a new series, with book number two forth coming from Libre Expression in Spring 2024.

PRAISE

"With its short chapters and a plot that sometimes recalls *The Da Vinci Code* by Dan Brown, and sometimes *The Silence of the Lambs* by Thomas Harris, *The Lambs of Dawn* is a novel that unfolds at a breakneck speed and, despite its graphic violence, is to be read with our eyes wide open." *Reader's Digest*

"The novelist is constructing a thriller as intelligent as it is inspiring that will delight readers who enjoy both reversals of circumstances and literary illusions." *Journal de Montréal*



AUTHOR

Steve Laflamme was born in the Lac-Saint-Jean region of Quebec. He teaches literature, including crime fiction, at the college level and writes in shades of dark and darker. *The Lambs of Dawn* is his first thriller to be published by Libre Expression.

READ AN
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New Releases

vlb éditeur

UPMARKET FICTION / NOVEL



L'amour à Kingscroft / Love in Kingscroft Mylène Gilbert-Dumas

VLB ÉDITEUR
OCTOBER 2023
13.4 CM × 21.6 CM ■ 176 P. ■ \$24.95

All rights available



AUTHOR

Mylène Gilbert-Dumas is the author of more than 20 novels. Proudly proclaiming her status as a popular novelist, she has successfully explored many genres and acquired a loyal readership. She lives in Sherbrooke (Quebec) and divides her time between travel and writing.

No need to travel to feel far from home!

DESCRIPTION

In the sequel to *Christmas in Kingscroft*, we again meet Clarisse and Rabih, brought closer together by the pandemic when Rabih, Syrian by birth and a pharmacist by profession, moved to the Estrie region. Having—finally!—declared their feelings, the two neighbours have decided to get married. Everything is going smoothly until Rabih begins the immigration process to bring his mother to their corner of paradise. Clarisse soon discovers that what they say about mothers-in-law is not always just the stuff of legend...

Interfering between the lovers, Rabih's mother forces them to think about the cultural gulf that separates them: Clarisse has had six children by four different fathers; Rabih, for his part, has remained close to his Syrian roots and his family's conservative values. For their union to have any chance of working, each one will have to try to adapt to the other's demands, without at the same time betraying his or her own values. Some contract!

SALES POINTS

- A funny and tender love story about dialogue between cultures.
- This Quebec author is known for her two best-sellers: *Yukonnaise* and *L'escapade sans retour* de Sophie Parent.

READ AN
EXCERPT

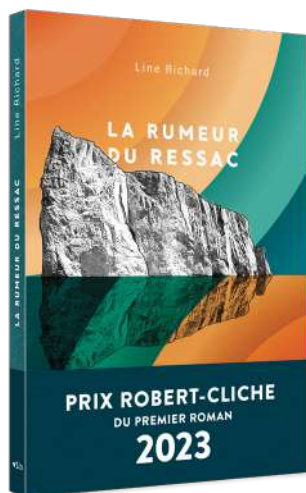
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New Releases

vlb éditeur

LITERARY FICTION / NOVEL



La Rumeur du ressac

/ *Whispering surf*

Line Richard

VLB ÉDITEUR

AUGUST 2023

13.3 CM × 19.7 CM ■ 184 P. ■ \$26.95

All rights available

2,500
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AUTHOR

Line Richard lives in Gaspé, where she works as a guide and interpreter. She is also the author of a collection of short stories entitled *Soudain, le paysage* (Éditions 3 Sista, 2018).

2023 Winner of the Prix Robert-Cliche for a first novel

DESCRIPTION

Martin and Léa leave Montreal for British Columbia and the islands of Haïda Gwaïi, taking Suzanne's ashes with them. Martin wants to give his daughter's mother, who died suddenly, a final home in a place where she once was happy. He also hopes that the long journey to the west coast will help Léa cope with the tragedy. Six years later, we find them again in a little village in the Bas-Saint-Laurent region, leading a quiet life – perhaps too quiet...

SALES POINTS

- A touching novel, written in a subtle, unbending style, about the power grief has over us and the relationship between a father and his daughter.
- A novel of mourning and memory, *Whispering surf* also speaks of the power, sometimes slow, sometimes tumultuous, of reinventing the self and encountering others.

PRAISE

"*Whispering surf* owes its richness to its style, with its exceptional musicality. In the novel, every sentence unfolds with a tone and rhythm of mathematical precision, giving the book as a whole a fluid and melodic momentum." *Le Devoir*

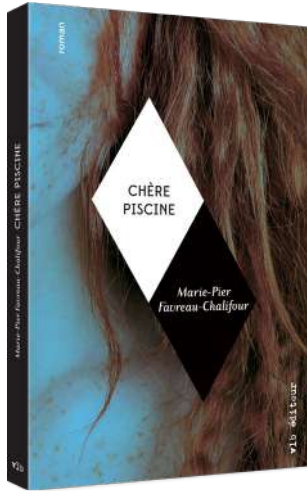
"This sensitivity to the earth's moods is expressed in her writing through poetic descriptions and colourful relationships between the movements of nature and the emotions of the characters." *La Presse*

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New Releases

vlb éditeur

LITERARY FICTION / NOVEL



Chère piscine / The Pool Marie-Pier Favreau-Chalifour

VLB ÉDITEUR
AVRIL 2023
13.3 CM × 19.7 CM ■ 288 P. ■ \$26.95

All rights available



AUTHOR

An eclectic at heart, **Marie-Pier Favreau-Chalifour** has studied Law, Visual arts, Theatre and Public relations. *The Pool* is her first novel, with a second one in the works.

A haunting, atmospheric thriller

DESCRIPTION

A young widow with paranoid thoughts tries to free herself from the hold her abusive husband had on her life and mind. The nighttime intrusion of a strange girl in her house triggers survival instincts she had deemed long-dead. Suffused with sexual tension, an unnerving psychological thriller about self-reconstruction in the aftermath of domestic violence.

SALES POINTS

- The manuscript was among the finalists for the prix Robert-Cliche du premier roman 2022, a Quebec award for first novels.
- A novel that explores how a survivor of domestic violence takes back control of her life.

PRAISE

"Throughout the story, Marie-Pier Favreau-Chalifour strikes a balance between realism and fantasy, dropping a few hints about the presence and nature of the people she portrays only to mix them up later." *Le Devoir*

"In a well-crafted story that we devour with delight, a confrontation begins that is intriguing, sensual and...worrisome." *Coup de pouce Magazine*

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New Releases

vlb éditeur

LITERARY FICTION / NOVEL



Les femmes de désordre

/ Disorderly Women

Catherine Côté

VLB ÉDITEUR

MAY 2023

14 CM × 21.6 CM ■ 400 P. ■ \$32.95

All rights available



AUTHOR

Catherine Côté has a published two poetry collections, two children's horror books, a first noir novel praised by critics, and many short stories.

A feminist gumshoe novel

DESCRIPTION

With brisk, funny dialogues between irresistible protagonists, this great hard boiled historical novel features the improbable trio of a grumpy policeman, a private eye traumatized by World War II, and a journalist fascinated by what was then called "feminine topics." A jubilatory dive in the mythical heydays of Montreal's Red-Light district, and the profound transformation that Quebec society started to undergo after the war.

SALES POINTS

- An original setting for a noir novel with a sociological twist.
- A sensitive outlook on the life of sex workers in the late 1940s.

PRAISE

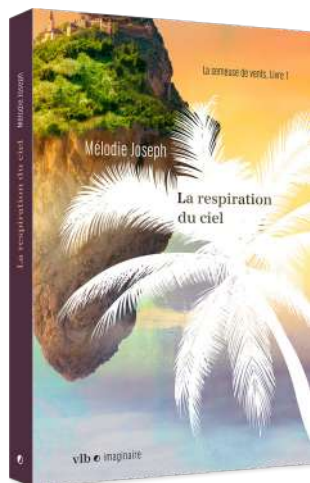
"Catherine Côté, an author who has mastered the recipe for a well-balanced police thriller." *Bible urbaine*

"A talented writer, an unsurpassed storyteller, a meticulous researcher, Catherine Côté offers a funny, sensitive, and imaginative noir novel, solidly rooted in late-1940s Montreal." *Journal de Montréal*

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New Releases

vlb  imaginaire



La respiration du ciel -
La sèmeuse de vents, livre 1

/ *The Wind Sower, Book 1:*
The Breathing Skies

Mélodie Joseph

VLB ÉDITEUR
FEBRUARY 2023
14.7 CM × 20.3 CM ■ 352 P. ■ \$32.95

Rights sold: France (Gallimard-Folio)

Fantasy meets decolonization

DESCRIPTION

In the Torments marshes, a savage wasteland seeped in a deadly mist, Snow finds a little girl, whom he names Olive. The child doesn't know who she is, nor where she comes from, but she wasn't born in the Torments, and shouldn't have survived them. In the sky islands of the Oracles, in the orphanage where her protector has abandoned her, Olive struggles to sew back together her shredded memories. As they slowly take form, she makes unnerving discoveries about the Oracles' deeds, and a frightening power awakes within her...

SALES POINTS

- A gripping origin story with steampunk and Caribbean influences.
- A subtle exploration of postcolonialism through the lens of New Adult Afrofantasy.

PRAISE

"There's a Caribbean feeling in this offering from Mélodie Joseph, an author proud to showcase her roots in a tale anchored in the literature of the imagination." *Journal Métro*

"With her simple and fluid writing, she easily succeeds in catapulting us into the immensity of space and its many aerial islands, offering a total immersion that lasts as long as the book." *Lettres québécoises* magazine



AUTHOR

Born in Martinique and raised in Saint-Martin, **Mélodie Joseph** now lives in Montreal. Her Communications master's dissertation was on Afrofuturism. *The Wind Sower* is her first novel.

The Wind Sower, Book 2:
The Breathing Skies
SPRING 2024

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EXCERPT

Backlist

vlb éditeur

20,000
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IN QUEBEC

Tout est ori / Everything Is Ori

Paul Serge Forest

VLB ÉDITEUR
MARCH 2021
13.6 CM × 19.7 CM ■ 456 P. ■ \$29.95

Rights sold: French outside Canada (Éditions des Équateurs), English-North America (Baraka Books), Film rights

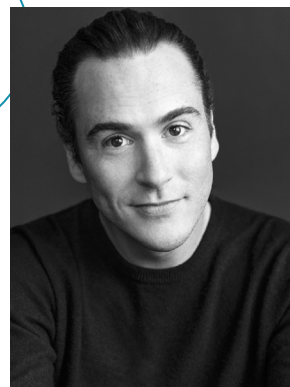
Where magic realism meets the seafood industry: from the North Shore to Japan, this crazy saga will have readers tearing their hair out

LITERARY AWARDS

Finalist for the Prix des libraires 2022, Finalist for the Prix littéraire des collégiens 2022, Finalist for Les Rendez-vous du premier roman 2021-2022, Winner of the prix Robert-Cliche du premier roman 2021, Prix d'excellence des Écrivains francophones d'Amérique 2021, Governor General's Literary Awards finalist in 2021, Finalist for the Prix Aurora-Boréal 2021

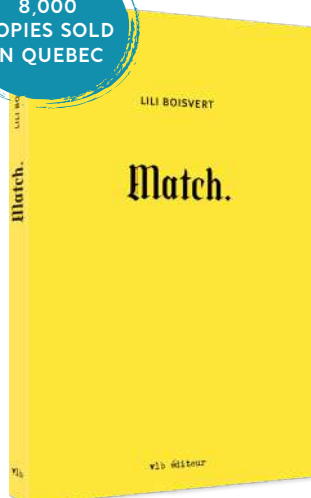
SALES POINTS

- A powerful and original intrigue that leaves nothing to be desired when compared with the best of American novels.
- *Everything Is Ori* will be made into a movie by Couronne Nord.

READ AN
EXCERPT

AUTHOR

Paul Serge Forest was born in 1984 in the Côte-Nord region of Quebec. He now lives in Montreal, where he practices medicine. *Everything Is Ori* is his first novel.

8,000
COPIES SOLD
IN QUEBEC

Match / Match

Lili Boisvert

VLB ÉDITEUR
MARCH 2022
12.7 CM × 19.1 CM ■ 192 P. ■ \$22.95

Rights sold: Film rights

A head-on, unflinching look at toxic relationships in the post-#MeToo era

READ AN
EXCERPT

AUTHOR

Lili Boisvert is a journalist and media host. She has published, through VLB Éditeur, the hit feminist essay *Le principe du cumshot* (published in English by Dundurn Press as *Screwed*) and a fantasy trilogy, *Anan*.

SALES POINTS

- Lili Boisvert is known for her commitment to the feminist cause and frequently speaks on issues related to sexuality.
- Published in April 2017, *Le principe du cumshot* (*Screwed*) sold over 7,000 copies and was published in English by Dundurn Press.

Backlist

Libre
Expression

vlb éditeur

LITERARY FICTION / CRIME SERIES

27,000
COPIES SOLD
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Vol. 1

Nous étions le sel de la mer –
La première enquête de Joaquin Moralès

/ We Were the Salt of the Sea:
Moralès' First Investigation

Roxanne Bouchard

VLB ÉDITEUR

MAY 2014

13.9 CM × 20.3 CM ■ 360 P. ■ \$26.95

Rights sold: World English (Orenda Books),
Arabic (Al Arabi Publishing), French outside
Canada (Éditions de l'Aube), Germany
(Atrium), Italy (E/O Edizioni), Spain and Latin
America (Atico de los Libros), TV series



AUTHOR

Roxanne Bouchard is a writer
and teacher of literature. She
has published eight novels. In
Quebec, Roxanne Bouchard is
considered a reference in
maritime crime fiction.

20,000
COPIES SOLD
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Vol. 2

La Mariée de corail –
La deuxième enquête de
Joaquin Moralès

/ The Coral Bride:
Moralès' Second Investigation

Roxanne Bouchard

LIBRE EXPRESSION

JUNE 2020

15.2 CM × 23 CM ■ 392 P. ■ \$29.95

Rights sold: World English (Orenda
Books), French outside Canada
(Éditions de l'Aube), Germany (Atrium),
Italy (E/O Edizioni), TV series

SALES POINTS

Nous étions le sel de la mer

- Winner of Le Prix des lecteurs
Quais du polar 2023
- Winner of Prix Compagnie des
pêches du Festival Étonnants voya-
geurs 2023
- Shortlisted for the 2015 Prix
littéraire France-Québec.
- Shortlisted for the 2015 Tenebris
Prize.
- Shortlisted for the Prix Livre & Mer
Henry-Queffélec in Brittany, France.
- Shortlisted for the First Book
Award, Edinburgh International
Book Festival, Scotland.

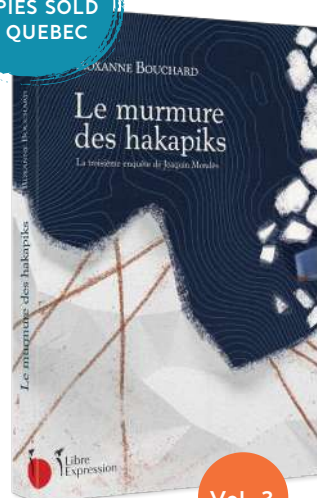
La Mariée de corail

- Best 2021 French Crime Book (Fic-
tion and Non-Fiction) Crime Writers
of Canada.
- One of Crime Reads UK's top inter-
national crime fiction books of May
2021.
- Finalist for the prix Saint-Pacôme
du roman policier 2021.

Le Murmure des hakapiks

- For fans of Ann Cleeves, Annie
Proulx, Emma Stonex, Louise Penny
and Jane Harper.
- In Quebec, Roxanne Bouchard is
considered a reference in
crime fiction.

13,500
COPIES SOLD
IN QUEBEC



Vol. 3

Le Murmure des hakapiks –
La troisième enquête de
Joaquin Moralès

/ Whisper of the Seals:
Moralès' Third Investigation

Roxanne Bouchard

LIBRE EXPRESSION

APRIL 2021

15.2 CM × 23 CM ■ 264 P. ■ \$24.95

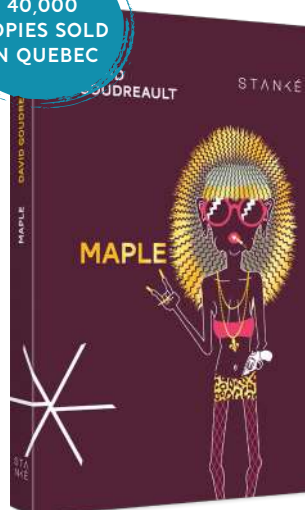
Rights sold: World English (Orenda
Books), French outside Canada
(Éditions de l'Aube)

Backlist

STANKÉ

LITERARY FICTION / NOVEL

40,000
COPIES SOLD
IN QUEBEC



Maple / Maple David Goudreault

READ AN
EXCERPT

STANKÉ
NOVEMBER 2022
12.7 CM × 20.3 CM ■ 240 P. ■ \$27.95

Rights sold: Film rights

The highly anticipated return of David Goudreault, with a spin-off from the last volume of the *Mama's Boy* trilogy



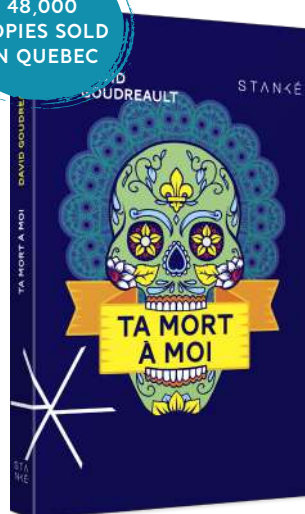
AUTHOR

A social worker, poet, and novelist, **David Goudreault** makes a lasting impression on everyone. His caustic writing has earned him a large number of awards, including Quebec's Medal of Honour of the National Assembly, the World Cup of Slam Poetry, the Grand Prix littéraire Archambault and the Prix des nouvelles voix de la littérature. A mix of poetry and comedy, his first stand-up performance, *On the Tip of Your Tongue*, enjoyed great critical and popular success, and was performed over a hundred times for audiences in Canada and Europe, as well as in Tunisia and La Réunion, in addition to sweeping up several awards. *Maple* is his fifth novel.

SALES POINTS

- The *Mama's Boy* trilogy has sold **136,000** copies.
- As he did in the *Mama's Boy* trilogy, the author explores the maze of mental health disorders and the senselessness of societal and carceral paths, with his customary humor.

48,000
COPIES SOLD
IN QUEBEC



Ta mort à moi / Your Death is Mine David Goudreault

READ AN
EXCERPT

STANKÉ
SEPTEMBER 2019
12.7 CM × 20.3 CM ■ 344 P. ■ \$24.95

Rights sold: French outside Canada (Philippe Rey),
French Canada book club (Québec Loisirs)

An author at the height of his creative powers.
An absolute literary gem

SALES POINTS

- David Goudreault writes with a crazy, vivid imagination all his own.
- *Your Death is Mine* was on the shortlist for the 2020 France-Quebec award.

PRAISE

"With his ability to juggle language so masterfully, Goudreault is one of our greatest contemporary authors." *Le Devoir*

Backlist

STANKÉ

LITERARY FICTION / NOVEL

50,000
COPIES SOLD
IN QUEBEC



La Bête à sa mère / [Mama's Boy](#)

David Goudreault

STANKÉ
APRIL 2015
12.7 CM × 20.3 CM ■ 232 P. ■ \$22.95

Rights sold: English-North America (Book*hug), French outside Canada (Philippe Rey, 10/18), Theatrical Rights

The family drama of a lonely man. And the unfortunate cats that stray across his path. Masterful wordplay and a sassy, rhythmic use of language

LITERARY AWARDS Winner of Archambault Literary Award; New Voices in Literature Award; Shortlisted for the Académie des lettres du Québec Ringuet Award; Shortlisted for the France-Canada Award; Shortlisted for the Robert Walser Award.

22,000
COPIES SOLD
IN QUEBEC



La Bête et sa cage / [Mama's Boy Behind Bars](#)

David Goudreault

STANKÉ
APRIL 2016
12.7 CM × 20.3 CM ■ 248 P. ■ \$22.95

Rights sold: English-North America (Book*hug), French outside Canada (Philippe Rey, 10/18)

Prison may break a man, but being behind bars awakens the beast within

LITERARY AWARDS Runner-up, Grand Prix du livre de la ville de Sherbrooke; Guest of honour, Montreal Book Fair 2016.

18,000
COPIES SOLD
IN QUEBEC



Abattre la bête / [Mama's Boy Game Over](#)

David Goudreault

STANKÉ
APRIL 2017
12.7 CM × 20.3 CM ■ 240 P. ■ \$22.95

Rights sold: English-North America (Book*hug), French outside Canada (Philippe Rey, 10/18)

With an outpouring of love and explosive violence, this grand finale brings the trilogy to a fitting end that's nothing short of apocalyptic

LITERARY AWARDS Winner of Prix Excellence culture Estrie 2016

Backlist

82,000
COPIES SOLD
IN QUEBEC



Em / Em

Kim Thúy

READ AN
EXCERPT

LIBRE EXPRESSION

NOVEMBER 2020

13.3 CM × 22.9 CM ■ 152 P. ■ \$24.95

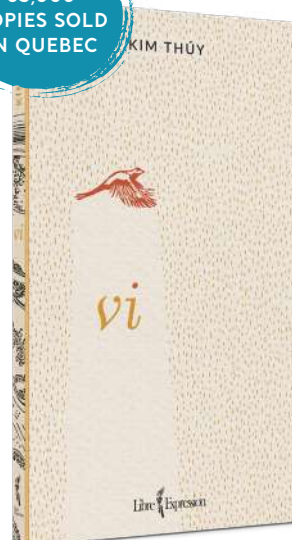
Rights sold: English-Canada (Random House), World English except Canada (Seven Stories Press), Arabic (Al Arabi Publishing), Estonian (Rava Raamat), Finnish (Gummerus), French Canada book club (Québec Loisirs), French outside Canada (Liana Levi), German (Kunstmann, DTV), Greek (Agra), Korean (Moonji), Romanian (Spandugino), Russian (No Age/Polyandra), Serbian (Clio), Spanish (Periférica), Swedish (Sekwa)

Not as personal as the author's earlier novels, and more daring, *Em* turns to the canvas of history to paint a tragic yet deeply human picture.

SALES POINTS

- #1 best-selling fiction book in 2020 in French Canada
- **LITERARY AWARDS** 2023 Shortlist – Dublin Literary Award; 2023 Winner – Prix Arganier – Prix du public Maroc; 2021 Longlist – Scotiabank Giller Prize; 2021 Longlist – Grand Prix du Livre de Montréal in French Canada.

53,000
COPIES SOLD
IN QUEBEC



Vi / Vi

Kim Thúy

READ AN
EXCERPT

LIBRE EXPRESSION

APRIL 2016

13.3 CM × 22.9 CM ■ 144 P. ■ \$24.95

Rights sold: World English (Random House), Arabic (Al Arabi Publishing), Finnish (Gummerus), French Canada book club (Québec Loisirs), French outside Canada (Liana Levi), German (Kunstmann, DTV), Italian (Nottetempo), Japanese (Sairyu sha), Romanian (Spandugino), Spanish (Periférica), Swedish (Sekwa), Turkish (Epsilon)

Vi explores the lives, loves, and struggles of Vietnamese refugees as they reinvent themselves in new lands



AUTHOR

Born in Saigon in 1968, **Kim Thúy** left Vietnam with the boat people when she was 10 and settled in Quebec with her family. As well as being a writer, she has earned degrees in translation and law and has worked as a seamstress, interpreter, lawyer, and restaurant owner. Her debut novel, *Ru*, was published in 2009 and became a bestseller in Quebec and in France, garnering several prestigious literary awards, including a Governor General's Literary Award in 2010. Kim Thúy was one of the top four finalists of the Alternative Nobel Prize in 2018. Her books have sold more than 850,000 copies around the world and have been translated into 31 languages and distributed across 43 countries and territories.

LITERARY AWARDS

2018 Shortlisted – Scotiabank Giller Prize

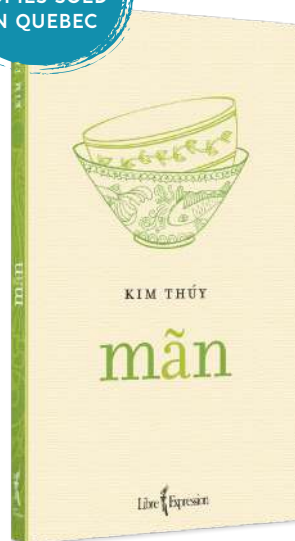
2017 Winner – NordSud International Prize, PescaraBruzzo Foundation

2017 Winner – Prix Arlette Cousture 2017 Shortlisted – Prix littéraire des lycéens (France)

2016 Shortlisted – Prix des cinq continents de la francophonie.

Backlist

70,000
COPIES SOLD
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mãn / mãn

Kim Thúy

LIBRE EXPRESSION

APRIL 2013

13.3 CM × 22.9 CM ■ 152 P. ■ \$24.95

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EXCERPT**

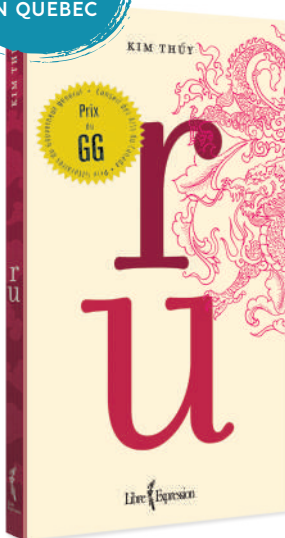
Rights sold: Bulgarian (Colibri), Chinese (Shanghai 99), English-Canada (Random House), English-Great Britain (Clerkenwell Press), French Canada book club (Québec Loisirs), French outside Canada (Liana Levi and France Loisirs), German (Kunstmann, DTV), Italian (Nottetempo), Japanese (Sairyu Sha), Korean (Moonji), Romanian (Spandugino), Serbian (Carobna knjiga), Spanish (Periférica), Swedish (Sekwa), Turkish (Epsilon)

***mãn* is a refined work of delicate beauty and a lesson in the meaning of the word "love"**

SALES POINTS

- *mãn* was shortlisted for the Prix des cinq continents de la francophonie in 2014.
- The English paperback version was among Barnes & Noble's Discover Great New Writers Fall 2015 Selections.

215,000
COPIES SOLD
IN QUEBEC



Ru / Ru

Kim Thúy

LIBRE EXPRESSION

OCTOBER 2009

13.3 CM × 22.9 CM ■ 152 P. ■ \$24.95

**READ AN
EXCERPT**

Rights sold: Albanian (Dritan), Arabic (IQRAni Publishing House), Bulgarian (Colibri), Chinese -simplified (Haitian Publishing House), Chinese -complex (China Times), Czech (Emitos), Danish (Gad), Dutch (Van Gennep), English-Canada (Random House), English-Great Britain (Clerkenwell Press), English-United States (Bloomsbury), Estonian (Loomingu Raamatukogu), Finnish (Gummerus), French Canada book club (Québec Loisirs), French outside Canada (Liana Levi, Livre de Poche, Grand Livre du Mois, France Loisirs, Feryane), German (Kunstmann, DTV), Greek (Agra), Hungarian (Park Kiado) Icelandic (Benedikt), Italian (Nottetempo), Japanese (Sairyu Sha), Korean (Moonji), Macedonian (Antolog), Norwegian (Perleblekk), Polish (Drzewo Babel), Portuguese-Portugal (Objectiva), Portuguese-Brazil (Âyiné), Romanian (Spandugino), Russian (No Age/Polyandria), Serbian (Clio), Spanish (Periférica), Swedish (Sekwa), Turkish (Epsilon), Ukrainian (Anetta Antonenko Publishers), Film rights (Amalga, Canada)

***Ru* is a mosaic of very short stories that play off each other the way a wind chime jingles in the breeze**

SALES POINTS

- *Ru*, a bestselling title in Quebec and France, was translated into 30 languages.
- *Ru* has sold more than **540,000 copies** worldwide.

LITERARY AWARDS

2018 Finalist – The New Academy Prize in Literature (The Alternative Nobel)
2015 Winner – Canada Reads
2014 Winner – Prix littéraire des ambassadeurs de la francophonie (Denmark)
2012 Finalist – Scotiabank Giller Prize (Canada)
2011 Winner – Mondello Prize for Multiculturalism (Italy)
2011 Winner – Grand prix littéraire Archambault–Prix du public
2010 Winner – Prix du grand public, Salon du livre de Montréal
2010 Winner – Governor General's Literary Award–Fiction (Canada)
2010 Winner – Grand Prix RTL–Lire, Salon du Livre de Paris (France)

Backlist

190,000
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Kukum

/ Kukum

Michel Jean

READ AN
EXCERPT

LIBRE EXPRESSION
SEPTEMBER 2019
14 CM × 21.6 CM ■ 224 P. ■ \$24.95

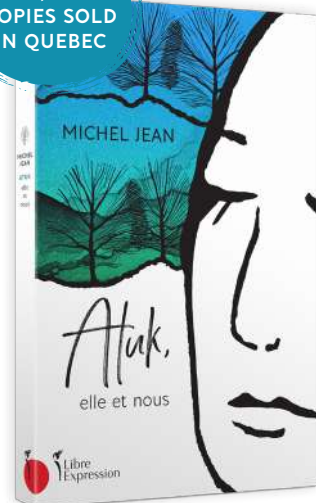
Rights sold: English-North America (House of Anansi), Arabic (Al Arabi publishing), Croatia (Leykam), French outside Canada (Éditions Dépaysage and Éditions Points - paperback edition), German (Wieser Verlag), Spanish (Tiempo de Papel), Russian (Livebook), TV series

Love brings orphaned Almunda to an Innu community, where she will struggle to get accepted and break down the barriers that Indigenous women face

SALES POINTS

- #1 best-selling fiction book in 2021 in French Canada.
- Michel Jean's novels, including *Kukum*, have revealed the hidden side of Indigenous life in Canada.
- **LITERARY AWARDS** 2023 Winner – Prix du Meilleur Roman des lecteurs et libraires Points; 2022 Winner – Prix Étoiles; 2021 Winner – Prix littéraire Nature Nomade; 2020 Winner – Prix littéraire France-Québec; 2020 Winner – Prix VLEEL (Varions Les Éditions en live); 2020 Finalist – Prix littéraire Jacques Lacarrière

58,000
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Atuk, elle et nous

/ Atuk, Her and Us

Michel Jean

LIBRE EXPRESSION
MARCH 2021
14 CM × 21.6 CM ■ 232 P. ■ \$24.95

Rights sold: French outside Canada (Éditions Dépaysage and Éditions Points - paperback edition), German (Wieser Verlag), TV series

In *Atuk, Her and Us*, a grandmother and her grandson retrace the respective trails of their lives

SALES POINTS

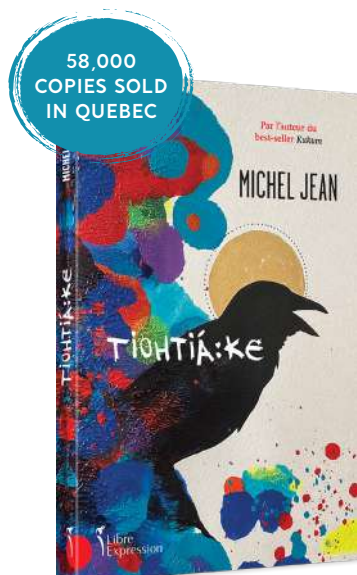
- Central themes: origins, roots, and the quest for identity.



AUTHOR

Michel Jean is Innu from Mashteuiatsh. He is a writer, TV news anchor and investigative journalist revered and appreciated by audiences across Quebec. The author of 12 books also writes short stories and has contributed to several collections, as well as curating two volumes bringing Indigenous voices to the fore: *Amun*, in the fall of 2016 and *Wapke*, in May 2021.

Backlist



Tiohtiá:ke
/ Tiohtiá:ke
Michel Jean

READ AN
EXCERPT

LIBRE EXPRESSION
OCTOBER 2021
14 CM × 21.6 CM ■ 224 P. ■ \$24.95

Rights sold: French outside Canada (Éditions du Seuil), French Canada book club: Québec Loisirs, German (Wieser Verlag), TV series

Tiohtiá:ke casts light on the Indigenous people who gather in cities to rebuild the communities they have lost

SALES POINTS

- Tiohtiá:ke means “Montreal” in the Mohawk language.
- A serious and timely topic: Indigenous homelessness in urban centers.



Le vent en parle encore
/ The Wind Still Talks About It
Michel Jean

LIBRE EXPRESSION
SEPTEMBER 2021
14 CM × 21.6 CM ■ 216 P. ■ \$24.95

Rights sold: French outside Canada (Éditions Dépayage and Éditions Points - paperback edition) under the name *Maikan*, German (Wieser Verlag)

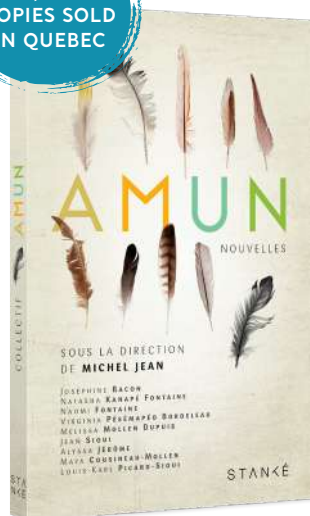
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